

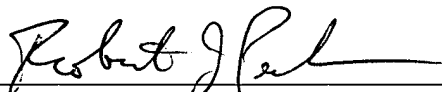
REMARKS

Examination and consideration of the application as amended is requested and allowance of claims 1-43, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

December 30, 2003

Date

By: 
Robert J. Pechman, Reg. No.: 45,002
Telephone No.: (651) 737-0631

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833